



Falcon Junior School

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30th January 2020

Dear parents and carers

Thank you for your continued support whilst we continue to be away from our home at Falcon Junior School. I would like to publically thank Mrs Stokes and all the staff and children at White House Farm Primary School for their support and for being so accommodating during this difficult time. The Falcon staff have been simply amazing as well in keeping the school running as smoothly as possible.

Yesterday, I met with Norfolk County Council Children's Services Senior Officers and NPS to discuss the situation at Falcon to enable me to brief you, the parents, as fully as possible as to where we are and what has been done so far.

Mr Smith and I are at Falcon early every morning to check the site and inform NCC of any further developments. We have had further water ingress this week when it has rained and when it has not. Herein lies the big issue; all the obvious causes of the water ingress and have been investigated and ruled out. We therefore are dealing with higher level investigations currently.

There are three areas of investigation:

- The geology of the land that Falcon is built on. This morning, we have had ground penetrating radar on site and will have a number of holes bored around the site on Saturday. This is to see if the school is built on a bed of clay that is absorbing the ground water and causing an issue.
- A leak/multiple leaks on the water system. The water meter sometimes moves when nothing in the school is being used and the heating is off. It has been estimated that the school is losing one litre every minute, however, there is no visible sign of a leak in the ducting under the school nor above it. Potentially the leak or leaks is within the floor slab.
- Pipe corrosion and water pressure. The pipes in the school are the original pipework. The school moved from tank fed to mains water in 2018. The increase in pressure may be creating a problem with old pipes.

NPS have arranged contractors to carry out the investigative work required but we are bound to agree by their availability so work will commence as soon as possible.

In terms of timescales, unfortunately I am unable to give one at present but I think that we need to prepare to be at White House Farm Primary School until half term. I am meeting Children's Services Officers and NPS regularly and will endeavour to keep you up to date. We all hope to return to Falcon as soon as possible however, I'm sure you'll agree, the water ingress problems must be solved once and for all before this can happen.

Yours faithfully

E J Savage

Headteacher